

A Story of SALVATION, OR REDEMPTION

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Every month, we meet as a group unity on the mental plane, within the heart center of the NGWS, in order to celebrate the full moon festivals, to take advantage of the extraordinary opportunities at these propitious times, to cooperate with the unparalleled and potent energies and forces reaching the planet from distant sources, to share in a sublime service activity of hierarchical dimensions involving Shamballa—that sacred place where the Will of God is known—an opportunity to “fulfill our part in the one work”.

Today the full moon festivals are becoming widespread, and that is great factually and symbolically, but it is a relatively new phenomenon to have the needed knowledge and be able to cooperate, both subjectively and objectively, on a large scale with the Hierarchy and with the spiritual energies made especially available at the times of the full moon. These energies are increasingly flowing into the center which we call the human race and instigating, accelerating, intensifying and creating the ferment which is evoking the creation of the appropriate and fitting vehicles for the new energies of unification and synthesis. Our steadfast monthly effort ensures the circulation of these energies so that they reach the whole of humanity, and the animal, plant and mineral kingdoms.

The conditions and challenges evocative of a united human effort are on the rise. Presently, we are faced with one such situation-- a threatening health challenge of global dimension, calling for a synthesis of effort and an inclusive approach to finding a solution. It involves rethinking our old ways of doing things, by adjusting to an extensive global coordination of national goals. The consciousness of the one humanity is insistently knocking on the doors of all individual nations.

We are talking about the coronavirus which is threatening and rapidly spreading over the world, and challenging and indicating our interconnectedness and simultaneously demonstrating the artificial nature of boundaries and nationalism. It is also revealing the extent to which we have annihilated distance and made the world into a “global village”, an achievement whose true implications we are struggling to accommodate.

The significant lessons, it seems, are being learned slowly and one of them is that individual national efforts, while necessary and very good, must lead the way to global cooperation and sharing, in view of the growing human problems that today transcend the old structural delineations and parameters, both physically and otherwise, and which are to be relinquished as soon as more enlightened structures make their appearance.

Let us pause at this time to reflectively sound the Mantram of Unification together as souls, “moving outward, from the center, of all Love.”:

The sons of men are one and I am one with them.
I seek to love, not hate;

I seek to serve not exact due service;
I seek to heal, not hurt.

Let pain bring its due reward of light and love.
Let the soul control the outer form and life and all events
And bring to light the love that underlies the happenings of the time.

Let vision come and insight.
Let the future stand revealed.
Let inner union demonstrate and outer cleavages be gone.

Let love prevail.
Let all men love.

We are told, that the twelve signs of the zodiac constitute a great heart center of a being; we have also been told that “the heart center is the repository of twelve forces or energies.”¹ The energies of the different astrological signs may therefore be considered as expressions of some aspects of Love, emanating from this great heart center, into our planet Earth. And from this point of view, the twelve signs may be considered as the twelve petals of this great heart center, with each sign of the zodiac related to one of the virtues through which these energies of Love are expressing themselves.

Of the twelve virtues through which the energies from the twelve petals of the heart center express themselves, the Tibetan named eleven, seemingly leaving out the twelfth virtue, which upon reflection seems to be the one virtue that ties all the other virtues together and unites all twelve, and for which we may suggest the virtue of Inclusiveness and potency and related to Pisces, as Pisces synthesizes the energies of all the eleven signs of the zodiac, making their energies indirectly available to us “as we journey to Thy sacred feet”.

This synthesizing energy of/from Pisces has created a great field of accomplishment, which we characterize as the Piscean age, and in which humanity is living and moving and having its being for the past 2000 years. This is the field of influence of the “two fishes connected by a band, and swimming in opposite directions” within the ocean of matter, and making Pisces a dual sign. Pisces holds the promise and possibility of a great transmutation before the world – the transmutation of duality into unity along the existent band between the two fishes. This duality determines the peculiar journey in Pisces, which first consists of leaving the Father’s home and then later returning with the developed power to save.

The two keynotes summarize the two stages of the one way —one keynote for the form nature and the other for the soul aspect. These keynotes define the objective goals facing all disciples in Pisces at one time or another. About that goal or journey or story, we theoretically know a lot

¹ *Discipleship in the New Age*, Vol. II, p. 660

today and are increasingly acquiring practical experience and wisdom on the way as we follow “the rules of the road”.

It might be said that we the present students and aspirants have received the most enlightened presentation of occult lore, esoteric teachings and ideas concerning the spiritual path and opportunities that the energies from the signs hold for us. This situation has made the goal, journey or the story more understandable, increasing our service responsibility.

In Pisces the goal of the soul is most clearly enunciated in the keynote: “I leave the Father’s home and turning back, I save.” The keywords from the point of view of the form are stated as follows: “And the word said: Go forth into matter”. This marked the outset of the journey into matter and spelled bondage for the soul. Of that commencement eons ago, we possess no recollection, but it is symbolically captured and portrayed for us in some ancient quotes by the Tibetan, called “the Path of Earth Experience” and reads as follows:

“Before the throne of God, the angel—with all other angels —stood and cried: Lord of my Life! Give me the strength to tread the Path of Revelation; to cross the sea of dark illusion and face the lighted way of earth. God said: Go forth and far away.”

So we are told our long journey from the Father’s home began, perhaps full of hope and enthusiastic enterprise, some distant kalpas ago. The angel, who is our higher self, always knows the “beginning from the end” and therefore knew of the perils and joys of the journey; the angel knew that it will be tumultuous, exacting and rigorous, sometimes full of inspiration and accomplishments, and at other times despondency and inertia characterized the way. Thus, at times, the journey is described as the Path of Revelation and the lighted way of earth, and at other times as a path trodden through “sea of dark illusion”. The angel asked to be granted Strength. The angel is also full of daring and valor, of patience and persistence and of unalloyed singleness of purpose, for at no time and no where did the angel abandoned the quest; he seemed to endure both the darkness and the light alike, with detachment.

All these qualities and attributes are the endowments of the angel, who is our true self. And we might sometimes ask if we really look the part, as we reflect upon the mystery of our existence and the challenges we are facing on the way? An answer, from deep within us whispers that we do look the part and that we are all that, and more. The inflowing energies at the full moon of Pisces evoke these hidden potentials into demonstration.

The Symbol of The Band: there is so much to be revealed by brooding over the symbol of Pisces, that cannot be exhausted in this short presentation. The band between the two fishes is at first a symbol of captivity of the soul by the form, but this band may also be considered as an evolving symbol of a pathway of “a relationship between states of being or consciousness”. From such a point of view the band may then represent the many pathways and dualities encountered on the way to the Father’s home.

Is the band between the two fishes, one swimming deep in the darkness of the sea, and the other swimming on the surface and basking in the sunlight, not some distant reflection symbolizing a pathway of progress? Is the path of revelation, the path across the sea of dark illusion and the path of the lighted way of earth, perhaps not reflected in the band between the two fishes and is this band not also a symbol of the “pairs of opposites” peculiar to the transmutations to be made in Pisces – from “the lower nature into the higher manifestation,” the lower psychical powers into the higher spiritual faculties of which the Tibetan names nine, and the “devotion to the needs of the self into developed devotion and response to the needs of humanity,” to name a few.

This band between the two fishes could not only be all the above but also a vital living channel along which the inpouring energies and forces of deity abundantly reach humanity. This band between the two fishes becomes the path of understanding, when suffering has done its work and “...pain is bringing its due reward of light and love”. Then the memory of the Father’s home begins dimly to dawn on the imagination, long before it becomes knowledge of the Path of Recognition leading to Revelation. The awakening of the prodigal son in the New Testament, and the fearful surrender of Jonah in the Old Testament come to mind.

Part Two: And so it came to pass that a great “turning” was made by the angel of persistent toil, the pilgrim on the way, a son of man who is also a son of God, humanity learning slowly but steadily on a long and arduous journey. And the attitude of the angel, now wiser through long experience and ever more determined, is summarized in the following quote:

“Before the gate which opens on the ‘Lighted Way’, the angel stood alone and said: Lord of my life! The Way of Revelation is the way of manifested life; the path of dark illusion leads to the glory of the rising sun; the lighted way of earth leads to the light that scatters every shadow. I seek to tread the Lighted Way which leads to thy PRESENCE. As yet that way is dark. What shall I do? God said draw near and enter into thine own light and in that light you shall see light.”

This we are told is ‘The Way of the Antahkarana’. On that way, we are bridging between heaven and earth. On that way, the two fishes with the band between them moving in opposite directions will be transmuted and transformed, and will then be moving in one united direction, towards the Father’s home. On that way, bondage and captivity, symbolized by the limiting band that ties the two fishes, will have done its work and taught its lessons of privation. On that way, we attain to the understanding and achievement of detachment, dispassion, discrimination and renunciation as the proper techniques of living and a growing will to sacrifice increasingly begin to qualify and crown all efforts. This symbolic upward way towards the Father’s home is factually a pathway in consciousness and represents new and awaiting states of awareness through which redeeming energies will flood the world.

Of this pathway we know, theoretically and through effort and aspiration, a lot today. We know that it is a path of Overcoming. Pisces, especially makes the needed energies for treading this

path available. The band between the two fishes, now becomes a path on which we work to dispel illusion, dissipate Glamor and devitalize all that “hinders and prevents service”.

Humanity is more consciously treading this path today, a pathway or field that has been inspired by the energies of Pisces. For we are told that Pisces “is the inspiration of the World Savior, and also the field of salvation.” And these are the potencies that are cyclically made abundantly available at each Pisces full moon festival.

The evidence of the impact of these salvaging, liberating and redeeming energies are demonstrating before our very eyes. For the enthusiasm of world workers is breathtaking, all formerly disenfranchised groups are awakening and agitating, new alliances are being contemplated and formed, universities and colleges are dedicating departments to research on the SDGs, women are liberating themselves, and the light is penetrating laser-like into every aspect of life on earth, revealing more and more the way to go and above all the “work to be done”.

Let us end with a quote from *Esoteric Astrology*, p.472: “It has been the steady impact of Piscean force which has at long last brought humanity, the world disciple, to the very door of initiation. For over two thousand years, Piscean influence has been playing upon mankind; it has brought about the demand for world adjustment; it has developed the international spirit and has led to the formation of groups in every department of human living and so laid the foundation for the future synthesis in Aquarius.”
